

pay taxes must also repay their loans. With this new opportunity must come new responsibility.

But these EXCEL accounts are just the beginning. I also want to give tens of thousands of young people the chance to pay for part of their college education or advanced job training through a program of national service. With national service, we can open a new world to a new generation, one where higher learning goes hand-in-hand with a higher purpose of addressing our Nation's unmet needs, educational, social, and environmental. Things that will secure the future, we will all share together.

Americans, without regard to age, will be able to earn credit against college costs before, during, or after college by working as tutors for children, volunteers at hospitals, as public safety officers, or in countless other grassroots community efforts that are working all across America today but need more help. College graduates can repay a portion of their loans by working as teachers or police officers in underserved areas. National service will mark the start of a new era for America, one in which every citi-

zen can become an agent of change, armed with the knowledge and experience that a college education brings and ready to transform the world in which we live, city by city, community by community, block by block, person by person. National service will operate at the level Americans know best, the grassroots. Its programs will be locally driven, because we trust communities to know what works. And this program is designed and will succeed without a traditional Washington bureaucracy. And believe me, no one will miss that.

Expanding opportunity, restoring responsibility, reviving our sense of community: these are the values that have always made our country strong. America has always succeeded when we've understood that we're all in this together. With national service, Americans can help themselves by helping each other. It's the best investment we could ever make in our future.

Thank you.

NOTE: The President spoke at 10:06 a.m. from the Oval Office at the White House.

Statement on the Death of President Ranasinghe Premadasa of Sri Lanka *May 1, 1993*

I am outraged by the assassination of President Ranasinghe Premadasa of Sri Lanka. I condemn this brutal act of terrorism.

President Premadasa served his country with great distinction. As Prime Minister and then as President, he worked tirelessly to promote his country's development and raise the standard of living of all Sri Lankans. His efforts made a real difference to his fellow citizens.

I hope that the people of Sri Lanka will join together at this difficult time to renew their commitment to the fight against terrorism and to underscore their support for their democratic institutions.

Hillary and I wish to extend the sympathy of the American people to the people of Sri Lanka at the loss of their leader. We send our sincere condolences to the family of President Premadasa at this tragic time.

Statement on the Prospects for Peace in Bosnia *May 2, 1993*

The developments in the Vance-Owen process are a positive step, but we have yet to determine whether the Serbs are serious about peace. We will make that judgment based upon their actions on the ground in Bosnia. As Lord Owen

said this morning, "We still have a long way to go."

Other agreements in this protracted war have raised hopes but not changed behavior. We will judge intentions by actions. Accordingly, I have